

09/733,348

SCHNEIDER

In the Claims:

Claims 1-20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (previously presented): A method for returning mail to a sender comprising:

receiving an article of mail, said article of mail including a sender postal address and a recipient having a recipient postal address;

determining that said article of mail is to be returned to said sender postal address;

providing information with said article of mail wherein said information can be used to help said sender attempt to locate said recipient; and,

delivering said article of mail and said information to said sender postal address.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 21, wherein said information that can be used to help said sender attempt to locate said recipient includes at least one of a machine readable code, telephone number, postal address, e-mail address, domain name, and Uniform Resource Identifier (URI).

Claim 23 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 21, wherein said providing said information with said article of mail includes at least one of a marking said information to said article of mail and attaching said information to said article of mail.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 23, wherein said marking said information to said article of mail includes at least one of a stamping and inking said information to said article of mail.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 21, wherein said information that can be used to help said sender attempt to locate said recipient is in a form of an advertisement.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 21, further including a mail delivery service at least one of a determining that said article of mail is to be returned to said sender postal address, providing said information with said article of mail that can be used to help said sender attempt to locate said recipient, and delivering said article of mail and said information to said sender postal address.

09/733,348

SCHNEIDER

Claim 27 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 26, wherein said mail delivery service includes at least one of a mail carrier, parcel carrier, and postal carrier.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 21, further including determining that said article of mail is to be returned to said sender postal address after determining that at least one of a recipient and first recipient postal address can not be located.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 21, further including marking said article of mail return to sender after said determining that said article of mail is to be returned to said sender postal address.

Claims 30 – 40 (canceled)